AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of the claims replaces and supersedes all previous listings. Please cancel claims 27, 34-38 and 41-44 without prejudice or disclaimer.

1–27. (Cancelled).

28. (Previously Presented) A computer implemented method for executing block trades for a security, comprising:

receiving a block trade request, said block request including a quantity of shares of the security to be traded over a portion of a market day for a trade forum;

generating a plurality of executable trade orders to implement said block trade request according to a trading strategy selected from a plurality of trading strategies, including:

dividing a trading day into a plurality of time bins;

for a received block trade request, computing average share volume for each time bin over a predetermined period of time and determining share volume percentages for each time bin;

multiplying the number of shares requested by the percentages for each time bin to determine the number of shares to be allocated within each time bin; and

generating executable trade orders for said allocated numbers of shares within each time bin in accordance with said selected trading strategy algorithm; and

executing said executable trade orders in a trade forum at different times determined by said selected trading strategy algorithm.

29.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein executable trade orders of an allocated number of shares within a given time bin includes at least one limit order during said given time bin, with a price and time for each limit order being determined as a function of an amount of time remaining in said given time bin, and as a function of real-time assessment of current market conditions based on real-time market data.

30.   ~~The~~ (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29 further comprising the steps of:
periodically checking the status of outstanding executable trade orders; and
changing at least one of the pricing and the number of shares of an outstanding executable trade order as a function of an amount of time remaining in said given time bin, and as a function of real-time assessment of current market conditions based on real-time market data.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 further comprising the steps of:
identifying securities for which said server has received a block trade request on both a buy side and a sell side; and

internally transferring shares of such identified securities from a seller to a buyer at a price determined according to the conditions specified in said request for said identified securities.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein said executable trade orders comprise limit orders for at least partial amounts of said allocated numbers of shares within each bin, the method further comprising the steps of:

determining after a predetermined period of time whether said limit orders have been at least partially filled;

if said limit orders have been at least partially filled, determining whether adverse market conditions exist, and changing the remaining share orders to more aggressive limit orders or market orders for immediate execution if adverse conditions exist;

otherwise, entering additional limit orders for partial amounts of said allocated numbers of shares within said time bins.

33. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 32, further comprising the steps of:

determining whether adverse market conditions exist if said limit orders have not been at least partially filled after a predetermined period of time;

completing the orders within said time bins by placing more aggressive limit orders or market orders if adverse market conditions exist;

otherwise, modifying said partial limit orders within said time bins and placing said modified limit orders within said time bins.

34-38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, further comprising the step of smoothing said determined share volume percentages according to a predetermined algorithm.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein said generating step includes a step of continuously monitoring a plurality of market indicators related to said security, and said monitoring of said indicators is performed automatically by said server using information provided by an electronic real-time information provider.

41-44. (canceled)